Revival of status of Natioal Poet to the eminent poets

945. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had honoured poets and accorded them the status of National Poet (Rashtra Kavi) in the past;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Government would consider to accord the status of poet laureate (Rashtra Kavi) to the poet of eminence and revive the long prevailing tradition of the country followed after independence; and

(d) if so, by what time Government would take up the decision in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Commencement of New Courses by Delhi University

946. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the University Grants Commission has given approval for the commencement of new courses in various colleges of Delhi University;

(b) if so, what are the details of the courses to be introduced;

(c) what are the names of the colleges in which these courses are likely to be introduced; and

(d) to what extent the students who have recently passed from the senior secondary school level are likely to get admission?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOMENT (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The details of Courses and the names of Colleges where these Courses are likely to be introduced are given in the attached statement. (*See* below).

(d) According to the provisions of Delhi University Ordinances, all those students who have passed Senior School Certificate Examination (Class-XII) of the Central Board of Secondary Education or an equivalent Examination with 40 per cent or above are eligible for admission to undergraduate courses in Colleges as regular students subject to minimum age limit of 17 years.

The University of Delhi has informed that 51,679 students who passed Senior Secondary and equivalent examination (Class XII) from Delhi with 40 per cent or above marks are eligible for admission to various under-graduate courses. As against this, the University has an intake capacity of 54,586 for admission to under-graduate courses in regular Colleges, Non-Collegiate Women's Education Board and the School of Correspondence Courses and Continuing Education. The admission process is still on. The University has indicated that it should be in a position to absorb practically all the eligible candidates.